

# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

# **DATE:** December 15, 2016

(Weeks of November 29 to December 13, 2016)

This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.

# REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis

District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

#### CARROLL COUNTY

CPO Jones checked a group of waterfowl hunters from McHenry coming in after a successful hunt on the Mississippi River. The hunters claimed to have 300 decoys in their boat, four hunters, a dog and a 14 foot canoe. The passengers were hanging over the bow coming in to the launch, breaking ice. The four hunters had 19 ducks all separated in the boat. Their life jackets were sealed in a frozen compartment, their throw able device was not in serviceable condition and the registration on their tender boat was expired in 2015. CPO Jones issued one citation for passenger location and three written warnings for lifejackets, throw able and expired registration.

CPO Jones cited a Mount Carroll man for an unplugged shot gun during the second firearm deer season.

CPO Jones responded to a hunter accident in Chadwick. A hunter had a branch break, causing him to lose balance falling into a limb as he was climbing up to his tree stand. The subject needed assistance from Fire crews to get out of the tree. The subject was removed without any serious injuries.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri was working an area with complaints and violations from the past. She watched a truck drive through private ground, making stops every few minutes. The truck then turned onto the road and continued in the same manner. This area is known for deer and other wildlife, but also problems with people shooting from the roadway or trespassing. As CPO Posateri followed the truck, the passenger looked back and then began hiding something under the seat. A traffic stop was made and an uncased .357 handgun was found under the seat. The passenger had unloaded the handgun and tried to hide it. Citations were issued for the violations.

CPO Posateri worked pheasant hunters at Johnson Sauk Trail SRA in rural Kewanee. One man was issued a citation for using an unplugged shotgun.

CPO Posateri cited an Andover man for failing to check his traps at least once per calendar day. He was trapping during

the open groundhog season and caught a fox in a live trap.

#### JO DAVIESS

CPO Hoogerwerf patrolled the BNSF railroad property with railroad personnel during the second firearm deer season.

Three men were issued citations for trespassing on railroad property after they were found dragging a deer shot in the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge down the tracks.

CPO Hoogerwerf issued a citation to an East Dubuque man for hunting deer without a valid hunting license.

#### LEE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### MERCER COUNTY

CPO Posateri and Captain Petreikis patrolled Mercer County during the Firearm Deer Season. Two trucks were coming out of the field when the CPOs met them near the road. The hunter in the second truck was transporting a loaded uncased muzzleloader in the truck. He later admitted to CPO Posateri his intention was to shoot if a deer came out as they were driving back to get some breakfast. The Aledo man was issued a citation for the violation.

CPO Francisko filed charges on a Texas resident who illegally harvested a deer in Mercer County without a non-resident hunting license, a habitat stamp or any deer permit. The subject was assessed an additional \$250.00 civil penalty for the deer. The man will have to travel back to Mercer County Court in January to attend a mandatory court appearance.

#### OGLE COUNTY

CPO Teas cited a hunter in Ogle County for unlawfully feeding/baiting deer. The hunter had dumped cracked corn and mineral prior to the opening of firearm season.

CPO Teas spoke at the Snowmobile Safety Class in Ogle County.

#### **ROCK ISLAND COUNTY**

CPO Posateri responded to a report of a vehicle in the Hennepin Canal by the Steel Dam. The vehicle had already been removed and a report had been completed by the local police jurisdiction. However, when the CPO looked into the water of the canal, there was oil on the water and also the strong smell of gasoline. CPO Posateri later met with the driver of the car who was uninjured. The driver claimed the brakes failed on the car, but CPO Posateri told him based on the evidence from the road he appeared to be going way too fast over the levee and was unable to control the vehicle which led him to strike the guardrail. The car hit the guardrail with such force it broke and the car landed upright in the waist deep water. The driver was issued a citation for the pollution of a waterway and an environmental cleanup company was notified.

#### STEPHENSON COUNTY

Forreston Police Chief Mike Boomgarden organized the Shop with a COP event with Ogle County and Stephenson County Sheriff's Deputies. CPO Beltran was fortunate enough to participate in this wonderful event.

#### WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Palumbo investigated hunting without permission complaint during the 2nd firearm deer season which resulted in the arrest of a Prophetstown man for possession of a loaded firearm by a convicted felon, and possession of a loaded firearm with a revoked FOID card. The Prophetstown man was transported to the Whiteside County Jail and the firearm and ammunition were seized.

With the assistance of a concerned Erie deer hunter and his son, CPO Palumbo issued a citation and multiple written warnings to a young Morrison hunter that had a bad case of buck fever. The young hunter saw a buck standing in a CRP buffer strip as he was driving down the road. He just couldn't resist and jumped out of his car and took a shot from the road. The deer hunter that called in the complaint was hunting in the same field that the Morrison youth shot into. CPO Palumbo arranged a meeting with the young hunter and his father at their residence and discussed the deer hunting laws and hunter/firearms safety. The deer, or any signs that it was hit, was not discovered.

# <u>District 6</u> – Sgt. Phil Wire

(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

#### **BOONE COUNTY**

CPO Alt seized an 8 point whitetail buck from a Boone County man who unlawfully harvested the deer with a bow without possessing an either sex deer archery deer permit. After the harvest, the subject traveled to a local retailer, purchased an either sex deer permit and then unlawfully reported the harvest using the newly acquired tag. The subject was charged one count for unlawful taking and/or possession of whitetail deer. Written warnings were issued for unlawful taking a whitetail deer without proper deer permit and failure to immediately tag deer upon kill.

During the second firearm deer season, CPO Alt charged a Winnebago County man for unlawfully hunting from a roadway in Boone County.

During the second firearm deer season, CPO Alt charged a Winnebago County man for unlawfully hunting on property without permission in Boone County.

During the second firearm deer season, CPO Alt charged two Winnebago County hunters for hunting by aid or use of bait in Boone County. The hunter who admitted to placing 11 piles of oats out in front of their ground blinds in the picked soybean field they were hunting also received a written warning for unlawful feeding of whitetail deer under the state's Administrative Rule.

#### **BUREAU COUNTY**

CPO Wagner while conducting wildlife enforcement cited individual for hunting by use or aid of bait and unlawful attempt to take whitetail deer. Individual also was given written warning for feeding whitetail deer.

CPO Wagner and CPO Stanbary, while on patrol, observed individual traveling at high rate of speed on Rte 6 near Princeton. Individual was recorded doing 80 mph in 55 mph marked zone. Traffic stop was conducted and driver found to be DUI. Individual arrested and taken to Bureau County Jail.

CPO Wagner while conducting deer enforcement during 2nd firearm season cited an individual for unlawful use of crossbow, transporting uncased crossbow and hunting without valid deer permit. Individual was also given written warnings for unlawful attempt to take whitetail deer, no blaze orange and no windshield card for state property.

CPO Wagner while conducting deer enforcement during 2<sup>nd</sup> firearm season cited individual for hunting without permission.

CPO Wagner while conducting wildlife enforcement cited individual for hunting by use or aid of bait and unlawful attempt to take whitetail deer. Individual also given written warning for feeding whitetail deer.

While patrolling Bureau County during Second Firearm Deer Season CPO Kaufman located a 19 year old man archery deer hunting. The hunter was wearing blaze orange. He had archery deer tags, no firearm tags for Bureau

County. The man had only been deer hunting for 2 years and had mis-read the Hunting Digest on when archery season was closed. The hunter was issued 2 written warnings.

#### **DEKALB COUNTY**

CPO Murry followed up on a complaint of out of state hunters in Lee County. A complaint was made of out of state hunters taking a big buck during first shotgun season and not tagging it. After completing the investigation and interviewing all hunting parties, the complaint was unfounded.

CPO Murry located multiple hunters on state park property during the muzzleloader season. Only one hunter was wearing the required blaze orange. Multiple written warnings were issued and the violations were corrected.

#### LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Jansen discovered a man and young boy rabbit hunting on railroad and neighboring property without permission during the firearm deer season. Both the man and the boy were not wearing the required blaze orange and the boy did not have a hunting license. The man was issued a citation for blaze orange requirement and hunting without permission. Written warnings were issued under parental responsibility.

CPO Jansen discovered a subject riding a snowmobile on the I & M Canal trail approximately 2 inches of snow cover. The law states there must be at least 4 inches of snow to operate a snowmobile on the trail. In addition, the operator did not have insurance, registration, or a functional headlight. A citation for operating on the trail with less than 4 inches and written warnings for the other 3 violations were issued.

#### **PUTNAM COUNTY**

CPO Finn was checking deer hunters during the second firearm season. He found three hunters that were hunting over an area known to be baited. The hunters admitted to hunting by use or aid of bait. Three hunters received citations for 6 illegally taken deer. Thirteen citations in all were issued to include unlawful take of whitetail deer, hunting by use or aid of bait and unlawfully making food available for deer. All three hunters will have mandatory court dates in Putnam County.

#### WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Schoonhoven arrested an individual for failing to tag his harvested deer with a deer harvest tag immediately upon kill.

CPO Fraser conducted an administrative deer hunting investigation into a hunter whose harvest records appeared to have discrepancies. CPO Fraser interviewed the hunter who admitted to purchasing his deer permit and habitat stamp after harvesting a whitetail deer. The hunter stated he made a mistake and was apologetic for the violation. The hunter was issued a citation for unlawful take of whitetail deer without a permit and written warnings for other permit related violations. CPO Fraser conducted an administrative deer hunting investigation into a hunter whose harvest records appeared to have discrepancies. CPO Fraser interviewed the hunter who admitted to purchasing his deer permit and habitat stamp after harvesting a whitetail deer. The hunter stated he made a mistake and was apologetic for the violation. The hunter was issued a citation for unlawful take of whitetail deer without a permit and written warnings for other permit related violations.

CPOs Beltran and Teas were checking firearm deer hunters in Winnebago County. While checking hunters, they encountered an individual waiting to pick up his hunting buddy. The CPOs initiated a conversation with the 21 year old Monroe Center man. While speaking to him, the CPOs observed drug paraphernalia and cannabis in his vehicle. A search of the subject's vehicle revealed he was also in possession of equipment for manufacturing cannabis wax. The subject was arrested and charged with the unlawful possession of over 30 grams of cannabis (Class 3 Felony) and drug paraphernalia (Class A Misdemeanor). Additional felony charges are pending. His friend was issued written warnings for minor hunting violations.

# District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)

#### **FULTON COUNTY**

CPO Thompson investigated a complaint of unlawful take of a whitetail deer. The report suggested a deer was taken without a valid permit during the firearm season. CPO Thompson conducted several interviews and uncovered multiple violations including unlawful take of a whitetail buck without a valid permit, failure to tag a deer immediately upon kill, unlawful transportation/possession of a unlawfully taken whitetail buck, and failure to report harvest of whitetail buck. Four citations and 2 written warnings were issued and the 11 point buck was seized.

CPO Reid worked an airplane detail in Fulton County

#### HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid arrested two lowa residents for unlawful entry into a closed wildlife refuge. Multiple citations were issued for waterfowl violations.

#### KNOX COUNTY

CPO Lazzell completed an investigation of a hunter who unlawfully harvested a 9 point buck on property owned by Lake Bracken Country Club. A 26 year old Galesburg man was charged with hunting without permission of the landowner, unlawful take of deer and unlawfully hunting within 300 Yards of dwelling. Written warnings were issued for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill and unlawful possession of deer. The 9 pt deer rack and 53 pounds of processed deer meat were seized.

#### MARSHALL COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### McDONOUGH COUNTY

CPO Thompson investigated a hunting incident involving a man who fell from his tree stand in McDonough County. After an evening hunt, the man was beginning his descent from his tree stand when he fell approximately 18' to the ground. Local emergency response units were dispatched to the scene. The man was evacuated to a local hospital where he was treated for a broken/fractured femur. CPO Thompson responded to the scene and took measurements and photographs of the location.

CPO Reid and CPO Thompson arrested a Florida resident for hunting deer over bait.

#### PEORIA COUNTY

While on patrol during the Firearm Deer Season, CPO Lazzell observed a subject driving a UTV along a field road who had an uncased firearm in his possession. A compliance check of the hunter led to the discovery of eight wildlife code violations including a loaded, uncased and unplugged shotgun that had been stowed in an overhead gun rack on the UTV. Citations were issued for unlawfully hunting deer by aid of conveyance (UTV), unlawful transportation of a loaded and uncased firearm, hunting without a valid deer permit, unlawful take/attempt to take deer and failure to wear blaze orange. The hunter's illegally used Remington shotgun was seized and is subject to forfeiture. Written warnings were issued for possession of an unplugged shotgun, hunting without a habitat stamp and failure to have proof of his hunting license exemption in possession. Additionally, 4 written warnings were issued for deer hunting violations occurring two days earlier during the archery deer season.

#### STARK COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **TAZEWELL COUNTY**

CPO VanZant cited two subjects for hunting from a roadway during the first shotgun deer season. The subjects were cited for: Illegal take of deer, transport uncased firearm in vehicle, hunt without permission, illegal take of deer after sunset, illegal hunt from roadway, unlawful use of vehicle to hunt deer.

#### WARREN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### WOODFORD COUNTY

CPO Gerard cited a subject for unlawfully harvesting a 10 point buck without a valid firearm permit. The deer was seized as evidence.

# **REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

# <u>District 2</u> – Sgt. Rich Riedel

(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)

#### **KANE**

During 2nd firearm deer season, CPO Siedsma and CPOT Cox observed three subjects walking through a field carrying shotguns. Upon checking the subjects, they stated they were waterfowl hunting. Two of the three were not in possession of valid hunting license, state waterfowl and federal waterfowl stamps and cited accordingly. One subject was arrested for being in possession of a firearm with a revoked FOID card.

CPO Siedsma and CPOT Cox checked snowmobiles during the snow storm and issued 1 citation and 4 written warnings for snowmobile violations.

### LAKE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Schreiber was first on scene to a car vs. semi traffic crash in the Johnsburg area. While the officer was notifying dispatch, the male driver and female passenger fled the scene on foot. Johnsburg Police Department was notified and later apprehended the two suspects several blocks away. The investigation led to small amounts of cocaine, cannabis, and a wallet stolen from a previous smash and grab.

CPO Davis and Sgt. Riedel arrested a subject for pheasant hunting with revoked FOID at the COLSP.

CPO Davis completed an investigation reference a deer check-in within 2 hours of harvest. The subject moved to Moultrie County so the complaint was forwarded to CPO Moody. CPO Moody issued the hunter a citation for deer hunting without a valid permit.

CPO Davis cited a subject for tagging an antlered 4 point buck and checking it in with an antlerless tag. The hunter also failed to check-in the deer by 10 pm on the date the deer was tagged.

# <u>District 3</u> – Sgt. Mark Simon

(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)

#### **GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPO Wollgast was given a tip about 4 firearm deer hunters who had shot at a deer on private property from Goose Lake Prairie. The hunter who had shot it had left the park after he was confronted by the complainant. After a long interview the other remaining hunters admitted there was a 4th person who had shot. CPO Wollgast arranged to meet the 4 hunters together at the site in several days. CPO Wollgast met with the three hunters he had talked to prior and issued them warnings for being accessories to hunting without permission. The shooter failed to show up and meet. Two hours after the other hunters who had been warned left, the shooter called making excuses for why he did not show up. He was given a second chance and met with CPO Wollgast later in the week. He proudly showed him where he had shot. He was informed he shot onto private property and smartly asked to see the signs. He was shown the signs he had walked 200 yards past before he shot. He was issued a citation and several written warnings.

#### KANKAKEE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland assisted the Kendall County Sheriff's Department with several traffic crashes and one domestic disturbance.

CPO Bergland stopped a vehicle that was driving 15 mph under the speed limit and was observed committing at least 3 traffic violations and was weaving in his lane. The driver was also not wearing a seat belt. CPO Bergland suspected a possible DUI driver. Although it was found that the driver had not been drinking, he was still issued a citation and three written warnings for the violations.

CPO Bergland checked multiple waterfowl hunters though out Kendall and Northwestern Will counties. One citation for failure to maintain separate bags was issued along with several written warnings.

CPO Bergland is continuing to work on several deer investigations.

While conducting surveillance on the DesPlaines River, CPO Reid watched 2 waterfowl hunters shoot at a group of ducks approximately 30 minutes past the legal shooting time. Each hunter was issued a citation for the offense.

During the Firearm Deer Season, CPO Reid stopped a deer hunter who was not wearing the required blaze orange clothing, did not have the correct permit to be deer hunting at the time, and was unlawfully using a crossbow. The hunter was also set up on the property line, with shooting lanes cut and scent attractants hanging on the neighboring property. Several citations and written warnings were issued for the violations.

CPO Reid responded to a hunting complaint on Metropolitan Water Reclamation District property. When he arrived, he discovered 2 waterfowl hunters, hunting on MWRD property without permission. The hunters were cited for the offense.

CPO Reid responded to a hunting complaint on private property along the DuPage River. When he arrived, he discovered 3 waterfowl hunters on private property without permission. Citations for hunting without permission and several written warnings were issued for the violations.

#### WILL COUNTY

Nothing reported.

# District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon

(Counties: Cook & DuPage)

#### **COOK COUNTY**

CPO Macias was in Marion County assisting with the second firearm deer season. He came across a truck that had an openly displayed firearm in the car. As CPO Macias was attempting to find the owner of the firearm, a lone hunter came out of the woods. When CPO Macias asked if the firearm was loaded, the hunter told the CPO yes. CPO Macias issued a citation for the uncased firearm.

CPO Macias found a baited stand in Marion County and visited the area several times during the day, CPO Macias finally found the hunter in his stand at the end of the second day and walked up to him. The hunter denied baiting anything. CPO Macias kept asking him to tell him if he had baited any area in which he hunts, the subject said no. CPO Macias suggested they both walk around the hunting area, CPO Macias found at least 3 separate spots where the hunter finally admitted he laid some food to attract deer. A citation was issued and the hunter was ordered to remove the bait.

CPO Macias assisted CPO Compton with a deer case. Two citations and a written warning was issued for no deer permits to two different subjects, the warning was for failure to report harvest.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan when he observed three subjects fishing among a larger group of fishermen. CPO Whitchurch observed the aforementioned three fishermen pack up their fishing gear and attempt to leave the area while CPO Whitchurch was checking the creel limits of other fishermen. CPO Whitchurch caught up with the subjects down the road at which time the fishermen told CPO Whitchurch they decided to leave because they did not have fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken against all three fishermen.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger attended the Chicago Yachting Association Annual Year End Banquet hosted in Chicago, where the Region 2 – District 4, Illinois Conservation Police were awarded a plaque honoring Illinois Conservation Police efforts and their services rendered to the boaters and citizens on Chicago's Lakefront and Rivers.

CPO Whitchurch teamed up with Indiana Conservation Police Officers and patrolled Lake Michigan waters in the reciprocal fishing areas. Multiple boats and fishermen were checked for compliance with State laws. Waterfowl hunters were also checked to assure compliance with applicable laws. A total of nine violations were observed and enforcement upon.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at Lake Michigan when they observed multiple people fishing. As CPO Whitchurch approached one angler, the angler realized the Conservation Police were present and immediately reached into a plastic bag and began to toss yellow perch back into Lake Michigan waters. CPO Whitchurch ordered the angler to stop his actions. CPO Whitchurch was able to count the fish in the angler's possession which was more than the 15 yellow perch limit. The subject was cited for the over limit of yellow perch.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at Lake Michigan when they observed a subject attempt to pack up their fishing gear while the CPOs were checking other fishermen nearby. The subject was stopped by CPO Whitchurch and it was learned the subject was an out of state resident who was unlawfully fishing without a valid nonresident sport fishing license. The subject was cited for fishing without a valid nonresident sport fishing license.

CPO Whitchurch and CPO Poffenberger were on patrol at Lake Michigan when they observed two subjects fishing across the waterway from where the CPOs were standing. CPO Whitchurch observed the subjects point to the CPOs and quickly dump the yellow perch they possessed out of their buckets and begin to count them. CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger went to the two subjects' location at which time both subjects began to toss yellow perch back into Lake Michigan. The subjects were ordered to stop which they did. CPO Whitchurch counted the yellow perch the subjects had in their possession which put both subjects over the daily limit. This count did not include the perch which were tossed back in the water. Both subjects were issued citations for unlawful possession of over daily limits of yellow perch.

CPO Whitchurch conducted a deer hunting and harvest investigation pertaining to a Cook County resident. After completing the investigation, it was determined the subject shot and killed a doe and did not want to tag the deer with an "either sex" tag. Thus, the subject went and purchased and "antlerless only" tag and affixed that tag to the deer. The subject was cited for failing to immediately affix a temporary harvest tag to the deer.

#### **DUPAGE COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO Farber conducted recreational snowmobile patrol in Lake County. Citations and warnings were issued for expired registration and failure to have insurance.

CPO Vaughan instructed the game laws section to a hunter safety class in Palatine.

CPO Vaughan worked snowmobile enforcement in Lake County. Citations and warnings were issued for no insurance, unlawful operation on a highway, and no registration.

# **REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes**

# <u>District 11</u> – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

#### **CLARK COUNTY**

CPO Wellum checked three hunters at Lincoln Trail State Park in Clark County. Two subjects from Edgar County, one subject from Coles County. None of the subjects were wearing the required amount of blaze orange. Three citations issued.

CPO Wellum stopped a side-by-side ATV with five Michigan residents in Clark County on private property. Four of the subjects were hunting. No one had the required amount of blaze orange on while hunting. None of the firearms were in cases. CPO Wellum issued four (4) citations and Five (5) Warnings.

CPO Wellum completed four (4) administrative investigations in Clark County resulting in written warnings.

### **COLES COUNTY**

CPO Greuel cited a Charleston man for failure to immediately tag deer upon kill violation in Coles County.

CPO Wellum investigated a hunting accident in Coles County with a Coles County resident. A young man hunting squirrel, mishandled firearm while raising firearm to shoot squirrel. Subject was shot through the foot.

CPO Moody cited a Charleston man in rural Coles County for failure to wear blaze orange during a firearm deer season. The man received multiple warnings for other miscellaneous violations.

CPO Moody cited a New York man in rural Coles County for hunting deer after hours. The man received a written warning for hunting with no hunting license.

CPOs Moody and Barnes cited a Sullivan man for possession of drug paraphernalia and cannabis while checking deer hunters in rural Coles County. The man and his friend were also trespassing on private property.

CPO Moody located a Charleston man in rural Coles County that had been lost for two hours after hunting. Moody found the man approximately 1 mile from his truck and gave him a ride back.

#### **CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

Nothing to report.

#### **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

CPO Greuel cited two Douglas County men for open alcohol in a motor vehicle when they approached CPO Greuel after sunset while he was working a detail in Douglas County. The subjects said they were scouting deer for the next day's hunt.

#### **EDGAR COUNTY**

Nothing to report.

#### **MOULTRIE COUNTY**

CPO Moody cited an Arthur man for archery hunting deer with no valid deer tags. The man received warnings for no hunting license or habitat stamp.

#### SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Barnes cited a subject in Shelby County for deer hunting without a valid deer permit and no hunting license. The subject attempted to pass as his brother, providing CPO Barnes with his brother's licenses and permits.

Sgt. McReynolds while patrolling Shelby County located a Beecher City man hunting deer with a Fayette County Firearms deer permit. The man was issued a citation.

CPO Barnes and Sgt. McReynolds cited two subjects from the Chicago area for deer hunting over bait in Shelby County. The pair was also issued several written warnings.

CPO Barnes cited a Shelbyville subject for improper tagging of a whitetail deer. The subject harvested a deer and then afterward purchased a permit. The subject had been warned previously for the same violation with a different deer.

# <u>District 19</u> – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

#### CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus were conducting deer enforcement in Champaign County when dispatch reported a vehicle traveling southbound on I 57 that was all over the roadway with varying speeds. The CPOs were the closest unit in the area and responded. The CPOs located the vehicle and observed it to be weaving over both lanes of traffic, upon initial contact open alcohol was observed in the vehicle. CPO Reeves conducted field sobriety testing and arrested the driver. The Oak Forest resident was charged with DUI with a BAC of .08 or greater (.226), illegal transportation of an alcoholic beverage, possession of less than 2.5 grams of cannabis, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

### **DEWITT COUNTY**

Sgt. Williamson and CPO Viverito were working a spot light detail in DeWitt County. They observed a vehicle pull into several field lanes and illuminate the fields with the vehicles head lights. Sgt. Williamson and CPO Viverito conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. An investigation uncovered evidence of open alcohol containers. The occupants of the vehicle were issued citations for open containers and released on scene.

Sgt. Williamson was working patrolling near his residence during the second shotgun season when he heard beagles hunting behind his house. He looked for where the hunters were parked but could not find a vehicle. As he drove up to the west side of his driveway two beagles ran across the road in front of him. He exited his vehicle and walked towards his driveway. As he looked in his yard a hunter was walking through his yard without a blaze orange hat. When the hunter saw Sgt. Williamson he unloaded his gun. Sgt. Williamson made contact with the hunter and asked why he was hunting in the yard of that house. The hunter stated he was just following the dogs. When asked if he knew who lived there the hunter stated he did not. Sgt. Williamson informed him that it was his house. The Decatur man was issued a citation for hunting too close to a residence.

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus were checking hunters at the Clinton Lake SRA. While checking hunters they came across two archery hunters who were not wearing blaze orange during the muzzleloader season. Before being checked for licenses CPOT Ausmus observed one of the individuals driving a vehicle that was later found to have a suspended driver's license. The subject was issued a citation for driving on a suspended license and both hunters were issued warnings for not wearing blaze orange.

Sgt. Williamson, CPOT Ausmus, and CPO Reeves responded to an over-limit complaint at the Dewitt Bridge. Sgt. Williamson and CPOT Ausmus made contact with the three suspected fish poachers. The suspects had 7 legal crappie in a bucket, however one suspect did not have a sport fishing license. The third suspect arrived back at the bridge a short time later, Sgt. Williamson was speaking to him in his vehicle and asked how many fish were inside it. The third suspect replied there were a few in a plastic bag under his driver's seat. A search of the vehicle produced 53 legal length crappie. The suspects, from Chicago, were all issued citations for the over-limit of crappie, two were issued citations for fishing without a sport fishing license, and one was issued a citation for driving while license suspended. The fish were seized as evidence, if found guilty the fish will be sent to the local raptor rehabilitation center.

CPO Graden conducted a plain clothes enforcement detail at Clinton Lake on the DeWitt Bridge, centering upon sport fishing regulations. A male subject, from Lincoln, was cited for pollution of waterways after he was observed throwing his empty Coors Light beer can on the lake bank as he was leaving. Additionally, one written warning was issued to a fisherman for taking over the legal limit of crappie. He had 16 crappie in his possession. The daily limit at Clinton Lake is 15 crappie per fisherman.

#### **FORD COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **IROQUOIS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CPO Wright and CPOT Ausmus followed up on a baiting complaint in Livingston County. Two young boys were alleged to have been leaving bird feed and molasses out near their tree stand. The CPOs made contact with the father who supervises them while hunting, the complaint was unfounded. However one of the boys shot and tagged a whitetail deer on opening day but failed to check it in. The boys are also budding trappers and had a few dog-proof traps set near the residence and a skinned raccoon in the garage. One boy just completed his trapper education course buy had yet to buy his license. The father was issued a single citation for failure to report harvest and was educated on the trapping violations.

#### **MACON COUNTY**

CPO Reeves assisted Macon County Street Crimes Unit in a methamphetamine investigation. A hunter found trash and other items from a meth lab on his hunting lease. The hunter was able to provide information and trail camera photos, which will aid in the ongoing investigation.

#### McLEAN COUNTY

CPO Graden conducted a compliance check on two adult, male, firearm deer hunters, in McLean County. One subject was issued written warnings for unlawfully hunting without a habitat stamp and hunting whitetail deer after legal hunting hours (*exited timber with a loaded shotgun*). The second hunter received a citation for unlawfully firearm hunting whitetail deer with an illegal device (52 y/o hunter with a crossbow). Also, he was issued written warnings for unlawfully hunting without a habitat stamp and hunting whitetail deer without valid permits (*archery permits only*).

#### **PIATT COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **VERMILION COUNTY**

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus were traveling on I-74 in Vermilion County when a car passed them at a high rate of speed. Moving radar indicated the male driver was traveling 100 mph. A traffic stop was initiated and the driver was issued a citation.

CPO Cottrell and CPOT Sanford located a Hoopeston resident hunting without permission on private property near Oakwood. After locating the hunter he was questioned about the landowner and was aware of her address and name; however the landowner stated she has never spoken to this individual or met him. The hunter was cited for hunting without permission in addition to 2 written warnings and removed from the property.

During Sunday of second shot gun season while on patrol in Vermilion County CPO Cottrell and CPOT Sanford located a vehicle stopped on the roadway in a rural area that is prone to road hunting. After observing the vehicle for some time they tried to initiate a stop. As the officers approached the vehicle, the driver drove off. The vehicle ended up at a rural Vermilion County residence where a foot pursuit took place and a second subject was ordered from the residence. Both subjects were arrested for aggravated fleeing and eluding a police officer, unlawful use or aid of motor vehicle to harvest wildlife, UUW, resisting arrest, and 16 other IVC and wildlife code citations. Multiple firearms were located in the vehicle that included a high powered rifle with red dot activated, 12 gauge shotgun, and loaded 357 revolver. All items were seized and are pending forfeiture.

# **REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

# <u>District 9</u> – Sgt. Mark Wagner

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike &

Schuyler)

#### **ADAMS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **BROWN COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **CALHOUN COUNTY**

Sgt. Wagner and CPO Weishaupt checked three hunters in Calhoun County during firearm deer season. One hunter did not have any blaze orange and was hunting over a mineral block. A second hunter was not wearing blaze orange. A third hunter did not have a hunting license or habitat stamp.

#### **GREENE COUNTY**

CPOs Gushleff and Goetten put out a deer decoy in Greene County. Within five minutes, a truck approached and a passenger got out. The hunter laid the gun across the hood of the truck and shot. The hunter was a 13 years old and was under the direction of his grandfather. The 13 year old hunter couldn't believe how real the deer looked and commented he had seen them used on North Woods Law.

Sgt. Wagner and CPO Gushleff responded to a hunting accident in Greene County. A subject was coyote hunting, when he disappeared from the hunting party. Approximately 15 minutes later, they found his truck in a 10-12 foot ditch. He had severe head injuries and was flown to Barnes Hospital in St. Louis. The accident is under investigation.

#### HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley checked a group of waterfowl hunters in Nauvoo. One of the four men said he forgot his license and stamps at home. After a brief interview, the hunter admitted he never purchased his hunting license, HIP, State, or Federal waterfowl stamp. The man was cited for no hunting license and no Federal Waterfowl Stamp. He received written warnings for no HIP and no State Waterfowl Stamp.

#### JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle with out of state registration for a traffic offense the day following the second firearm deer season. The occupants admitted they were in town for the firearm deer season. A check on the non-resident passenger revealed he claimed Illinois resident status when he bought his license and deer permits. He was cited for the offense.

CPO Goetten observed a vehicle traveling 102 mph on a dangerous road in Jersey County. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was arrested for reckless driving.

CPO Goetten stopped a slow moving vehicle in unincorporated Jersey County under the suspicion of road hunting. The registration on the vehicle expired in 2013. The driver had a revoked license and showed signs of alcohol impairment. He was arrested and transported to the Jersey County jail.

CPO Goetten was working a remote area in Jersey County when he encountered suspicious activity. He attempted to stop a truck suspected of being involved. The suspected driver was known to CPO Goetten from a previous case where the subject was hunting with the aid of an ATV with a loaded rifle. He also had priors for large amounts of drugs and his driver's license was revoked. CPO Goetten attempted a traffic stop on the vehicle, but the driver fled. A pursuit ensued for several miles before the subject's driving became a risk to other drivers. CPO Goetten and a Sheriff's Deputy later located the subject and took him to into custody. The truck he was driving was located hidden behind a shed at another person's residence. The subject was arrested for aggravated fleeing and eluding, driving while license revoked, and reckless driving.

#### MACOUPIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### PIKE COUNTY

CPO Myers was contacted by an outfitter in Pike County that a client was returning to tag a buck he had killed during the firearm deer season. A check on the client revealed he had checked in a buck harvested in November. He was not properly licensed at the time he harvested a 12 point buck.

CPO Weishaupt checked a hunter in Pike County during firearm deer season. He was hunting without permission, hunting over a mineral block, had an unplugged gun, and did not have a hunting license, habitat stamp, or deer permit.

CPO Weishaupt received a call from an outfitter in Pike County during firearm deer season. The hunter had shot a buck earlier and went back out to shoot a doe. Not only did the hunter harvest a doe, but he also shot a second buck.

#### **SCHUYLER COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

# District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

#### **CASS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran and Norfolk Southern Special Agent Mathon while on patrol, encountered a black pickup traveling at a very low speed in rural Christian County. Suspecting the driver to be hunting from the roadway and after observing an IVC violation, a traffic stop was conducted. The vehicle stop yielded several firearms (1 registered stolen Ruger Red hawk .44 Magnum Revolver), ammunition, a whitetail deer rack, methamphetamines, and drug paraphernalia.

#### LOGAN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### MASON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **MENARD COUNTY**

CPO Bettis issued a subject a citation for hunting without a hunting license and written warning for no habitat stamp.

#### MORGAN COUNTY

CPO Wichern issued a subject a citation for hunting without permission.

CPO Wichern issued a subject a citation for unplugged shotgun.

CPO Wichern issued a subject a citation for hunting deer after legal hours.

#### SANGAMON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### SCOTT COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

### **BOND COUNTY**

Nothing reported

#### **CLINTON COUNTY**

CPO Tapley issued a subject a citation for unlawful taking of a whitetail deer and unlawful use of a permit belonging to another after he shot two bucks and only had one permit. Another hunter was issued a citation for allowing him to use his permit. One buck deer was seized.

CPO Tapley stopped a vehicle in Eldon Hazlet State Park at 1:00 am for being in the park after the park closed. The driver of the vehicle was found to have open alcohol and was issued a citation.

CPO Tapley issued two citations to a hunter for unlawfully retrieving game from property of another without permission and failure to immediately tag a deer before transportation.

CPO Tapley issued a subject a citation for failure to report deer harvest by 10:00 pm same day as kill.

CPO Tapley was at Eldon Hazlet State Park and saw two pheasant hunters driving slowly through the park. CPO Tapley stopped in a parking lot and asked them how their hunting was going. The hunters asked CPO Tapley a question about a specific hunting area. CPO Tapley got out of his truck and approached them to look at the map they had. As Tapley was speaking with them, he noticed an uncased shotgun in the backseat. The gun was found to not only be uncased, but with a round in the chamber. The passenger was found to have an uncased gun also. They two were issued citations.

#### **MADISON COUNTY**

CPO Liebl checked an archery deer hunter on State ground during the firearm deer season. Hunters are allowed to archery deer hunt in this area, but must wear the required 400 square inches of blaze orange. The archery deer hunter had hunted that day without wearing the required blaze orange. The hunter also had the distinct smell of burnt cannabis on him, but was no longer in possession of any illegal drugs. A citation for no blaze orange was issued.

CPO Liebl was patrolling near some State hunting areas when he observed a truck parked alongside the roadway. A man was observed throwing a white plastic trash bag that he had taken out of the back of his truck and throwing into the woods. As the man reached for a second white trash bag, he noticed CPO Liebl approaching. When asked what he was doing, the man hung his head and said "You caught me". The man had killed a deer in Southern Illinois, brought it back home, and processed the deer himself. The man then put the inedible parts of the deer inside the trash bags and brought them to the area to throw them away. The man was ordered to pick up the bag he had already thrown onto the private property without permission. He was then issued a citation for unlawful dumping of deer parts along the roadway and on property without permission.

CPO Liebl received a complaint of a hunter placing a stand on land he did not have permission to hunt. A note was left on the stand to remove it immediately, but after a few weeks the stand remained. CPO Liebl removed the stand and left a seizure tag with contact information for the hunter to call about the stand. No one has called about the stand to date. If the hunter does not call, the stand will be considered abandoned after 6 months and sold at auction.

CPO Liebl received a complaint about a hunter placing bait at a public hunting area. A pile of bait and a climbing tree stand were found in the area described. Since the hunter was not there at the time, a sample of the bait and the tree stand was taken. Also, a discarded water bottle and several cigarette butts were found under the stand. A seizure tag was left for the hunter to call about their stand. Numerous violations were discovered. A suspect has been identified and will be interviewed if he does not call to claim his stand.

#### MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner received a complaint from a gun deer hunter regarding a subject shooting out of his truck on a private lane. Upon witnessing the poaching from his tree stand, the hunter jumped on his ATV and obtained the license plate number and confronted the poacher who quickly departed. A freshly shot buck was found dead about 35 yards from the lane. CPO Schachner and the hunter back-trailed the short blood trail and determined the original location where it was

shot from the truck. Numerous houses were along the private lane and a neighbor who lived within 100 yards of the poaching, offered CPO Schachner the opportunity to review his security camera. The time-stamped security camera recorded video of the truck as it arrived and departed the private drive. A follow-up interview with the poacher confirmed the evidence and witness statements. The poacher received 4 citations with a mandatory court appearance for: hunting with the aid of a vehicle; loaded/uncased gun in vehicle; hunting without permission and wanton waste of a deer.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CPO Matt Lentz issued 6 citations to a Coffeen man for violations involving a world class deer. The charges consisted of illegal possession of a whitetail deer, unlawful taking of a whitetail deer, no valid deer permit, failure to check deer in same day as harvest, failure to tag deer immediately upon kill, and wanton waste of usable deer meat.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Ralph Sievers was working a night patrol and observed a truck driving extremely slow on a county road. A light from the driver's side window illuminated a field. The truck drove on and CPO Sievers followed the subjects until a second field was illuminated with a light from the driver's side window. CPO Sievers stopped the vehicle. Two subjects were in the truck. They were in possession of open alcohol, a loaded and uncased pistol, and a loaded and uncased rifle. The firearms and flashlight were seized and the subjects were taken to jail.

CPO Ralph Sievers was standing a ground blind that was illegally baited with mineral. At 6:02 a.m., CPO Sievers heard gun shots from the south side of the property. At 6:14 a.m., CPO Sievers located the hunter who had shot two does prior to the legal hunting hours. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting prior to legal hunting hours and the deer were seized. The deer were donated to the Sportsmen Against Hunger.

CPO Sievers located a firearm deer hunter who did not have a hunting license, habitat, stamp, or firearm deer permit. The hunter's FOID card was revoked and he was wanted on a Randolph County warrant for theft. The subject was confined at the Randolph County Jail for the warrant. The hunter was issued citations for his wildlife offenses and the revoked FOID card violation will be referred to the State's Attorney.

CPO Ralph Sievers heard a call for a domestic 911 call in Percy. CPO Sievers was in the area checking waterfowl hunters so he responded to the address. Steeleville Officer arrived on scene and spoke with the wife and children as CPO Sievers spoke with the husband. The husband was asked to leave the house to calm down.

CPO Ralph Sievers was working the 2<sup>nd</sup> firearm deer season and checked a hunter that was hunting by the aid of a trophy rock. The hunter also had taken his blaze orange off while he was in his box blind. CPO Sievers questioned the hunter about the food plot and deer stands that were on Kaskaskia River Fish and Wildlife that adjoined his property. The hunter stated that he thought he owned the property but agreed to stop planting the food plot and correct the deer stand violations. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting by the aid of bait and written warnings for the other violations.

CPO Ralph Sievers was contacted by a Missouri Conservation Agent the week after the 2<sup>nd</sup> firearm deer season. The agent had a hunter who checked an 11 point buck during the Missouri antlerless firearm season and then checked the same deer under an archery permit. The investigation led to a confession that the subject killed the buck in Randolph County and he only had an antlerless only permit. CPO Sievers furthered the investigation and identified that the landowner had checked in a firearm killed doe on Monday after the 2<sup>nd</sup> firearm deer season. CPO Sievers met two Missouri Agents in Fenton and interviewed the subject who had harvested the 11 pt buck. The hunter was issued a citation for the unlawful take of an antlered deer without a valid permit and the rack was seized. The landowner was also interviewed in Missouri and was issued a citation for failure to check-in a harvested deer by 10:00 p.m., and written warnings for no hunting license, no habitat stamp, and not properly attaching the harvest tag to a deer prior to moving it.

#### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Ray arrested a St. Clair County subject archery deer hunting on public property during firearm deer season. The subject walked in under the cover of darkness and set up his climbing deer stand. He did not see the pile of corn 15 feet from his stand until daylight. He was too busy with work to purchase a hunting license and habitat stamp and did not realize it was firearm deer season. He did not purchase a firearm deer permit and never purchased an archery deer permit. CPO Ray notified him of his multiple infractions of the law including failing to wear blaze orange.

CPO Liebl assisted CPO Ray with illegal hunters in northern St. Clair County. One hunter was cited for hunting over bait and warned for unlawful feeding of wildlife. Another hunter was warned for an unsigned deer permit and for allowing his son to firearm deer hunt (not under his immediate supervision) without a valid FOID card.

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Charles was on patrol in Washington County during the second firearm deer season. CPO Charles observed a vehicle parked along a field road in an area that is known for deer hunting. CPO Charles observed a male walking out of the woods with a shotgun 10 minutes after legal hunting hours. The hunter was also not wearing any blaze orange when he came out of the woods. CPO Charles checked the firearm and determined that the firearm was still loaded. The hunter also was in possession of a Clinton County deer permit. The hunter was cited for the violations.

# **REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber**

# <u>District 14</u> – Sgt. Jeff Cariens

(Counties: Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Perry, Pope, Saline, Wayne, White)

#### **EDWARDS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

### FRANKLIN COUNTY

An administrative investigation led to a subject being cited for hunting without a valid firearm permit by CPO Schoenhoff.

#### **GALLATIN COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Folden is investigating a report of timber theft.

CPO Schoenhoff received information that an individual was hunting without permit. After an interview, the individual was cited for unlawful hunting without a hunting license, unlawful hunting without a habitat stamp, and unlawful hunting without a valid archery permit, given a civil penalty of \$250.00 and Issued a written warning for unlawful take of a whitetail deer during archery season.

CPO Folden issued a citation to a man during firearm deer season for hunting without a valid permit. CPO Folden observed the hunter coming out of the woods with a bow and no orange clothing. The hunter had also driven an ATV to his hunt location without a case for his bow. He was issued a written warning for no bow case and for no orange.

#### HARDIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

An administrative investigation led to subject being cited for hunting without a valid archery permit by CPO Schoenhoff.

CPO Folden discovered during an administrative investigation and Ohio man unlawfully used his father's deer permit to tag a 10 point buck. The father was an Illinois resident. The Ohio man did not have a hunting license, habitat stamp, or deer permit. He believed he could legally use his father's licenses and permits since he was hunting on private property. The Illinois resident did not purchase his hunting credentials until after his son illegally harvested the deer. The Ohio man was cited for unlawfully using another person's permit, unlawful take of a deer, hunting without a deer permit, hunting without a hunting license and a written warning for no habitat stamp. A 10 point deer rack was seized.

CPO Diggins issued a Bluford hunter a citation for no deer permit. The hunter killed a deer and attempted to tag the deer and realized he didn't have a permit in his possession. The hunter went to a local vendor purchased a permit and returned and tagged the deer. The hunter was also issued a written warning for failure to tag immediately upon kill.

CPO Lay and CPO Folden worked waterfowl hunters hunting on Rend Lake. Two waterfowl hunters were cited and warned for no hunting license, no Federal stamp, and warned for parental responsibility for allowing a minor that was hunting with them, for an unplugged shotgun and failing to register with the Harvest Information Program (HIP).

CPO Lay issued a Jefferson County bow hunter a citation for no valid permit, harvesting a deer with his bow, during the firearm deer season. The hunter only possessed an archery tag. A written warning was issued to the same hunter for not having a habitat stamp.

#### PERRY COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **POPE COUNTY**

CPO Johnson spoke to a landowner who stated the neighbor was seen hunting on his property without permission. CPO Johnson spoke with the subject. The subject admitted to hunting without permission. The subject was ran and found to be wanted on a warrant. He was cited for hunting without permission, no hunting license, no blaze orange, and no valid deer permits. The subject was jailed for the warrant. An ongoing investigation is being conducted to determine if the subject has a prior felony.

#### SALINE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **WAYNE COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### WHITE COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff issued a citation for failure to wear blaze orange in the field while hunting.

### District 15 - Sgt. Dave Hyatt

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash, Wayne)

#### **CLAY COUNTY**

CPO Smith observed an orange in color side by side traveling on a roadway. The operator of the side by side stopped and turned around and began driving away from CPO Smith. CPO Smith caught up to the side by side and the driver stopped. CPO Smith walked up to the driver and observed an uncased firearm in the vehicle. The operator was wearing blaze orange and heading out to hunt that evening. CPO Smith checked the firearm for a plug and found it to be unplugged. CPO Smith asked the hunter if this was the same firearm he used earlier that day and he said it was. CPO Smith issued 1 citation for hunting with an unplugged shotgun, 1 written warning for operation of ATV on roadway, and 1 written warning for uncased firearm.

CPO Smith observed two pickup trucks sitting on private property along a roadway. CPO Smith checked the hunters for their credentials and also checked their firearms. CPO Smith checked a firearm sitting in a side by side and found it to be loaded with slugs. CPO Smith issued a citation for unlawful transport of loaded firearm.

CPO Smith responded to a call from Clay County Sheriff's Department reporting a group of hunters hunting on property they did not have permission to be on. CPO Smith arrived and met with a Clay County Deputy who was on scene speaking with two landowners. CPO Smith spoke with the landowners and asked what action they would like him to take. The landowners wanted the three subjects warned for hunting without permission. The 3 hunters were teenagers and hunting crow. CPO Smith checked their firearms and credentials and found no other violations. CPO Smith issued 3 written warnings for hunting without permission.

CPO Tim Buhnerkempe was called out at approximately 10:00 pm one night to respond to a possible poached deer. Upon arrival, CPO Buhnerkempe located a man at a residence with a freshly killed deer head that had been cut off the body. The poacher admitted to cutting the deer's head off and throwing the body in a river. The deer was untagged and had not been checked in by the legal time. The man was ticketed for unlawful take of a deer, failure to immediately tag a deer, failure to report harvest by 10 pm, wanton waste of edible deer meat, transportation of an uncased bow, pollution of a waterway, and hunting without permission of landowner. A Hoyt Carbon Defiant bow and 12 point deer head were seized as evidence.

CPO Buhnerkempe investigated a man who'd been hunting while his hunting privileges were revoked for child support. The subject admitted to hunting deer twice this year with no license or permits. He was cited for these violations.

#### **CRAWFORD COUNTY**

CPO D. Taylor cited a subject for deer hunting with an unplugged shotgun.

#### **EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

CPO Smith issued 2 written warnings to hunters for failing to complete their deer permits.

#### **FAYETTE COUNTY**

CPO Smith was patrolling the county line of Effingham and Fayette and observed a log truck hauling logs travelling from Fayette County entering onto Route 128. CPO Smith stopped the truck before it entered the highway. CPO Smith asked the operator for proof of ownership/transportation paperwork. The operator did not have the necessary paperwork to prove to CPO Smith where the logs had originated from. CPO Smith explained to the operator the laws pertaining to timber transport and issued one citation for failing to show proof of ownership.

CPO Buhnerkempe received information from the Fayette County Sheriff's Department about a subject they'd recently arrested for aggravated fleeing and eluding who'd been involved in night deer poaching. CPO Buhnerkempe interviewed the subject at the jail and the subjected admitted to shooting a handgun out the window of a vehicle at a large buck. The man's FOID card had been revoked previously making this offense a felony. He was cited for possession of a firearm with revoked FOID, hunting by use/aid of a motor vehicle, shooting from a roadway, transportation of an uncased

firearm, and hunting deer during unlawful hours. A handgun was later located in a field where he threw it out the window when the pursuit began with Fayette County. The subject also said he'd dropped off another man prior to his arrest who'd also shot at the deer with a stolen handgun. This subject is a convicted felon. A felony warrant has been issued for his arrest.

While on patrol in Fayette County, CPO Compton received a complaint that a local subject may have unlawfully harvested a buck deer. I drove to the suspect's house and discovered two bucks in the outbuilding. During my investigation I learned that both of the bucks were taken by subjects who had antierless only tags. Multiple citations and warnings were issued and both deer were seized.

CPO Compton caught two subjects spotlighting from their vehicle with uncased firearms attempting to take wildlife. A total of four citations were issued, 2 rifles and 2 spotlights were seized.

#### JASPER COUNTY

CPO Smith observed a hunter sitting in a tree stand and checked him for his credentials. CPO Smith checked the hunter's firearm and found it to be unplugged. CPO Smith issued 1 citation for unplugged shotgun.

CPO Smith checked a hunter leaving an area in his vehicle on a public roadway. CPO Smith asked the hunter where his firearm was located. The hunter opened the rear door of the vehicle and showed it to CPO Smith. CPO Smith observed a can of beer that had just been opened. CPO Smith checked the hunter's firearm deer permit and asked for his hunting license/habitat stamp. The hunter could not find them. CPO Smith checked on POS and found him to have purchased the license/stamp. CPO Smith issued 2 written warnings for the violation, and 1 written warning for the transport of open alcohol.

CPO D. Taylor issued 4 citations to a subject for unlawful possession of two buck heads, and for failing to tag deer, and failure to report harvest. The doe was seized and donated to Farmers Feeding the Hungry Program

#### LAWRENCE COUNTY

During the second firearm deer season CPO D. Taylor recovered a stolen vehicle north of Lawrenceville.

#### **MARION COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **WABASH COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

### **WAYNE COUNTY**

During the second firearm season CPO Buhnerkempe issued 1 citation for uncased firearm, 2 tickets for allowing a child to hunt without permits, 2 tickets for unplugged shotguns, 1 ticket for hunting with no hunting license, 1 ticket for unlawful take of deer with no permit, 1 ticket for hunting deer with no permit, and 2 written warnings

# District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

#### **ALEXANDER COUNTY**

CPO Vasicek cited a subject who harvested a small buck deer with a firearm, failed to tag the deer or call it in. Subject rather removed the head and hid it to sneak out later and left the rest of the deer in the timber. He was cited for unlawful possession of deer, wanton waste, failure to tag, and hunting without permission.

#### JACKSON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Thompson cited an out of state deer hunter for taking a buck deer with antlerless tag, failure to tag deer and failure to report deer harvest.

CPO Thompson cited a duck hunter with over-bag limit of mallards. He had taken 5 mallards and 1 widgeon.

CPO Thompson cited a deer hunter for failure to tag deer and possessing his son's tag while hunting.

CPO Thompson charged 3 hunters for hunting without permission. They had trespassed the first firearm season and were found hunting the adjacent property the second firearm season. They were also issued warnings for ATV operation on roadway.

CPO Thompson charged a deer hunter for not having a hunting license and gave him a written warning for not having a habitat stamp.

CPO Thompson cited a deer hunter for hunting with landowner tag but on someone else's property.

Several written warnings were issued for other hunting violations.

#### MASSAC COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **PERRY COUNTY**

CPO Lewis cited a hunter in Perry County for hunting without permission. The hunting was warned for hunting in the same location last year.

CPO Lewis assisted with locating and apprehending a suicidal subject in Perry County at the request of the Sheriff.

#### POPE COUNTY

A traffic stop was conducted after surveilling a truck traveling at an extremely slow rate of speed, stopping repeatedly in the roadway for approximately three miles. Upon making contact with the occupants of the truck, the passenger was found to be in possession of a .30-30 Winchester lever action rifle lying in his lap. The hunter stated he was coyote hunting. The hunter was arrested for hunting by the aid of a vehicle, hunting from the roadway, coyote hunting during closed season, transport of an uncased firearm. The driver of the truck was arrested for hunting by the aid of a vehicle and hunting from the roadway as an accessory. The .30-30 Winchester rifle was seized.

A traffic stop was conducted after surveilling a car travel at an extremely slow rate of speed, using its headlights to illuminate deer and stopping repeatedly in the roadway. No firearms were found in the car upon making contact with the driver. The driver was arrested for driving with a suspended driver's license.

### **PULASKI COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **UNION COUNTY**

CPO Vasicek charged a Union County subject with spotlighting, hunting from the roadway, shooting from the roadway and unlawfully hunting between 1/2 hr after sunset to 1/2 hr before sunrise.

CPO Vasicek taught a Hunter Safety Class in Alto Pass.

#### WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Sgt. Taylor cited a hunter for hunting without a valid permit in Williamson County. An eight point buck was seized and turned over to a meat processor for donation to a food pantry.

Several other hunters were issued warnings for permit and license violations.

A hunter was cited for unlawful take of a deer without a permit and failure to tag immediately upon harvest.